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Assistant Director for Operations

9 August 1956

Chief, Foreign Documents Division

FDD Monthly Progress Report -- July 1956

ADMINISTRATION

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1. The number of personnel charged against ceiling as of 31 July was [REDACTED]

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2. [REDACTED] was appointed permanent FDD representative at the OTR monthly Intelligence Products Exhibit. Plans are under way to provide a more attractive Division display.

3. In discussions held between Mr. Harrison G. Reynolds, Director of Personnel, and [REDACTED] assistant to the DD/I (Administration), agreement was reached on the grade level for editorial assistants in the Publications Section of Reports Branch at GS-5. Action has been taken to recruit for the four positions provided in the plan.

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4. [REDACTED] went on loan to NSA for one year as of 2 July.

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5. [REDACTED] left on TDY [REDACTED] in North Africa for six weeks to two months.

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6. [REDACTED] returned from three months' TDY with WH in [REDACTED]

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7. [REDACTED] entered on rotation in USAR Branch from OTR for one year starting 16 July.

8. Fourteen Division personnel participated in the production of OTR training films. Average length of participation -- two days.

9. Hearings on the FDD FY-57 operating budget and the FY-58 budget were held in the Comptroller's Office on 10 July.

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10. [REDACTED] was briefed by Chief, FDD, on 16 July.

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11. In preparation for a survey trip planned by the CIA Librarian, and Chief, Acquisitions Branch, FDD is compiling comments relative to field procurement as reflected from Division receipts.

12. Lists for the Division's 1957 foreign publication subscriptions are being prepared as required by CIA Library. During the month the book lists were completed.

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13. [REDACTED] gave a lecture in Japanese on the postwar Japanese university system on 18 July as part of an ORR lecture series.

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14. [REDACTED] of ORR completed the FDD Polish Reading Course and passed the FDD reading examination on 17 July.

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[REDACTED] completed the NSA Chinese course on 7 July and has been reassigned to duty in FDD.

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15. Deputy Chief, FDD, attended as an observer a meeting called at the State Department, concerning the possible discontinuance of [REDACTED] Chief, Current Digest of the Soviet Press, presented possible courses of action open to him as a user of [REDACTED] No commitments were made.

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16. Eleven Division personnel attended a lecture on Polish geography given by [REDACTED] Geography Division, ORR, on 31 July.

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Organization

1. The 75th meeting of the Subcommittee on Exploitation of Foreign Language Publications was held on 27 July and was concerned with discussion and revision of the second draft of a report to the Advisory Committee. Revisions were completed and the report in final form will be going forward shortly. The next meeting is scheduled for 28 September.

2. Reference to the ORR Index prevented 78 cases of duplication totaling 1469 pages.

3. The Division is exploring the feasibility of establishing more direct contact with individual areas of the DD/P to effect more expeditious treatment of requirements and to eliminate what may be unnecessary controls, record keeping, and delays in transmittals.

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4. The DD/P is studying the possibility of supplying FID more speedily with certain publication titles now subject to considerable delay in Division receipt for exploitation.

5. The first issue of the scheduled monthly Summary "Information on North Africa" appeared during the month.

A weekly report "World Press Summary on International Communist Developments" was initiated to supplant the former "World Press Briefs." This was done at request of the DD/P for greater emphasis in this field in the face of continuing developments following release of the Khrushchev speech. In support of this report, the DD/P is supplying on a current basis air-mailed press clipping from all overseas areas.

"East-West and Intra-Orbit Travel and Contacts" information is now covered in a weekly OO-W report.

6. Eastern Europe Branch reports that a marked improvement in quality and increase in quantity of information has been noted in satellite publications: more geographic and military information and more hard figures have been especially noted.

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Arrangements have been made for the Division to receive advance copies of Hong Kong Press Monitoring Service reports to forestall possible duplication of effort.

8. Commendations:

From AD/RR, for the rapid preparation of FID Translation No. 566 "National Economy of the USSR."

From Special Assistant to AD/RR, for FID support of ORN's Economic Research Program for FY-56.

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From Chief, Industrial Division, ORN, for [REDACTED] "Automation Problems in Machine Building in the USSR," prepared by [REDACTED]

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7. Liaison activities (other than CIA)

Department of State

with Division of Biographic Information, Mr. John Syphax, to discuss program guidance on reporting of North Korean biographic information.

Department of the Navy

with Scientific and Technical Section, ONI, to discuss program guidance on the scheduled FID Summary "Scientific Information Report."

U.S. Information Agency

with Soviet Orbit Staff/Office of Policy and Programs, Mr. Morris Matnick, to discuss program guidance on FID coverage of

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10. Special services rendered:

10/1 -- For (M/M/OI) performed reverse translation, English to Spanish, of 3-page document

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For 10-5, served as Greek interpreter.

10/2 -- Monitored six Russian tape recordings of an interview and interrogation of recent Rumanian emigre.

10/3 -- Performed reverse translation of one page, English to Turkish.

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11. Significant reports:

FBI Translation No. 566 - The National Economy of the USSR - A Statistical Compilation (first economy-wide statistical handbook issued by USSR since 1939; best available reference for recent growth of Soviet economy)

J. J. BAGGALL

enclosures: 2

1. Statistical Report on FID Operations
2. Details of Personnel Actions